Modernisation of Kolkata and Chennai Airports

81. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been stiff opposition to the joint venture route for modernisation of the Kolkata and Chennai airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are considering to modernise these airports through AAI; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) Though the modalities of implementation of the modernisation plans have yet to be decided in the interim the Airports Authority of India has drawn up plans for construction of a new international departure block with car parking facility etc. at an estimated cost of Rs. 225 crores at Kolkata airport. Thereafter, new internat'ional arrival block will be constructed. AAI has already initiated actions to extend runways and to develop plans for construction of a new Domestic Terminal Building & 11 additional bays. Construction of an Integrated Cargo Complex is likely to be completed soon.

At Chennai Airport, AAI has already taken up construction to expand and modify International Terminal Block at an estimated cost of Rs. 23.47 Crores. AAI is also constructing 20 additional parking bays. AAI has further plans for construction of a new domestic terminal building for which State Government of Tamil Nadu has been requested to hand over 583 hectares of land to AAI.

New Airport in Orissa

†82. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any demand to construct an airport at Jharsuguda in Orissa; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) it so, the steps taken by Government so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Nagpur Airport

†83. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Airports Authority of India have prepared a blueprint for upgradation of Nagpur Airport to international level;

(b) if so, by when this scheme would be put into action; and

(c) the reasons for non-implementation of this scheme so far?-

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRl PRAFUL PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Upgradation of Nagpur Airport has been taken up for upgradation in a phased manner by Airports Authority of India. Discussion with Government of Maharashtra have been initiated for development of Nagpur airport as a national cargo and passenger hub. In the meanwhile Airports Authority of India has various upgradation works in phase I include Expansion and Modification of terminal building and construction of new arrival had for handling international operation, expansion of existing apron to create two more parking bays for B-747, B-777 and B-767 types of aircraft and construction of new apron with six parking bays forAB-321/B-737-900 class of aircraft. The above works are expected to be completed by the end of 2007. In addition, AAI has also plans to take up construction of Haj Terminal.

(c) Does not arise.

Upgradation of Airports into International Airports

84. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of airports in the country have been identified for upgradation into international airports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.